

# Riverdale School News

School District 148

The Mission of School District 148 is to challenge and support all students to reach their highest level of performance.

May 2010

## Reminders:

- Please make sure your child arrives at school by 8:45 each morning.
- School Board policy states that students are not allowed to have any designs carved into their hair. Please remember this when you take your children for haircuts.
- Students who arrive at school after 9:10 a.m. are considered absent 1/2 day!
- Read with your child every night for 20 minutes. This reinforces what we do in school and is part of his/her reading grade.



## Kindergarten

We are still very busy in the kindergarten. We now know how to tell if animals are mammals, and we are beginning to learn about the life cycle of a butterfly. We are lucky enough to be able to grow our own butterflies here in the classroom. Feel free to ask your child what stage the butterflies are in. We also have been busy practicing for our very own kindergarten movie. Please check your child's backpack in the next few weeks for more information on when the screening will be. You are all invited to attend. Finally, even though things are winding down, we are still busy at work here at school. Please send your child prepared to learn each day with a backpack, folder, and appropriate clothing. There is still a lot left to learn, so also please continue to work with your child on his/her weekly homework packets and nightly reading logs. You have all done a wonderful job this year working with your child at home and all the hard work has definitely paid off. Thanks for all that you do!

Ms. Rosen

## First Grade

We are springing into May rather fast and we have so many fun events planned. First of all, please be sure that your child arrives to school on time as tardies will prevent him/her from attending our field trip to Navy Pier. They should also be on their best behavior and follow their Riverdale Responsibilities because referrals could also prevent them from attending one of our many fun events planned this May.

Our students have made so much progress in SFA, so please continue reading with them each night and signing their Read & Respond. Students should continue to read over the summer, so that they keep up with their fluency and accuracy. In Math, we have started introducing money, and students will learn to count pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters. Towards the end of May, we will move on to telling time. In Science, we have finished the life cycle of a frog and have moved on to butterflies. We have ordered caterpillars and will soon begin the process of watching them change stages and will then release the butterflies at the end of May!

Since this is our last newsletter of the year, Ms. Eiseman and I would like to let you know that it has been so wonderful having your child this year and watching them learn and grow. They have changed and have learned so much and they are all eager to continue to learn! We will miss each and every one of them but we know that they are ready to move on to bigger and greener pastures! Thanks for all of your support!

Miss. Murphy & Miss Eiseman

## Second Grade

May is a very busy month as we will be finishing up in all subject areas. In math, we will be ending with learning about hundreds. Students will learn the place value as well as the process of adding and subtracting hundreds. Your child should still review the adding and subtracting of 2-digit numbers, counting money, and telling time now and throughout the summer. Also, don't forget there are a few weeks left of SFA and your child needs to continue to read nightly and do his/her Read & Respond. This month we also have two field trips. Encourage your child to stay on green and have appropriate behavior so he/she will be invited to attend. It has been a great school year and we loved having our students! We want to thank all of our parents for a wonderful and supportive year and hope everyone has a safe and superb summer! See you next year!!!

## A Word From Nurse Wolfenson

Demanding children: what to do with them? Many demanding children end up in my office because it is a way to get some attention. When I call home I will hear about how she is a "Drama Queen" or attention seeker. Parents, I sympathize with you. My concern is that these children do need attention, and sometimes when we label them, we tend to turn off hearing them. You need to filter what is important and what is not. More importantly, you need to give them your undivided attention every day for a while. You need to talk over school and what goes on, and you need to help with their Read and Responds every day. Make a once a week special time to spend an hour doing something in the kitchen together and make a once a month outing where you do something fun. I raised a child who was a drama queen but I learned to see her as a person who needed a little more attention and direction. It was a great challenge but well worth.

Hooray, the dentist saw 144 students! All this prevention is going to pay off. We have a significant number in the no cavity club. I want a lot more students in the club. Please take them to have their cavities repaired and get into the brushing in morning and at night routine.



## Fourth Grade

Report cards were issued at the Parent-Teacher conferences for the third quarter. Thanks for your participation!

In Reading, we are reading various stories and novels during (SFA) Success For All! Remember to keep reading at home to help increase your child's fluency. Every student is responsible for nightly Read & Respond homework with an adult signature. Non-compliance will negatively affect the student's Reading grade. The last day for SFA is Friday, May 14th.

In Math, we will begin to focus on division and fractions. Please continue to practice multiplication with your student at home.

In Science, we will finish up the Solar System with a group project on planets that we are working on in class. We will move on to Ecosystems and finish up with a project where we create our own ecosystems.

In Social Studies, We are now going to focus on Illinois, its resources, landforms, and landmarks. This will be concluded with a project on the states. The details will be coming home soon.

In Language Arts, we will focus on informal and formal letter writing. Also, we will continue to work on writing in cursive.

We will be going to the Indiana Dunes, Tuesday, May 25<sup>th</sup>. Also, for those students with no tardies and no behavior referrals, we will go on an Architectural boat ride from Navy Pier on Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>.

Please send in the Step up Celebration money and permission slips (if money has been paid). You can still turn in the summer school forms for your child.

4<sup>th</sup> grade will have their annual scooter basketball game against the staff next month. In order to attend, students must have good behavior and be up-to-date in their schoolwork. Students must also have 20 tickets to participate.

We are still working hard. Thanks as always for sending them to school in uniform! The school year is winding down so let's keep the momentum up. Let's earn more class tickets and Riverdale rocket tickets. It's not over until it's over!

Mrs. Conley, Mrs. Roddy, Mrs. Williams & Mrs. Sanford

### Greetings from the artmobile – May 2010

**1st grade did a fantastic job on their Earth Day marker and water drawings. They will look at the work of artist Romare Bearden and make collages.**

**2nd grade is currently working on a project featuring dinosaurs. They are making them out of clay and then painting them in watercolors. Their next lesson will be making 3-dimensional architecture.**

**3rd grade is doing a great job finishing their flower and insect scenes (based on Georgia O'Keefe). They will work with clay to make masks next.**

**4th grade very successfully completed their stained glass windows. They are about to begin a lesson focusing on Egypt and relief sculptures.**

Sincerely,  
Mr. Jordan

Coffee with the Principal

Tuesday, May 11th, 8:45



Please join us!

Last one of the year!

## Third Grade

Wow! We can not believe that the school year is nearly over, but school is not over. We have many incentive activities in May; the boat trip, baseball game, scooter basketball, and the third grade picnic. Please encourage your child to be on his/her best behavior so they do not miss out on any fun activities!

We are working hard on learning multiplication, please have your child practice his/her multiplication facts daily. SFA Read and Respond homework continues daily including the weekend.

We would like to wish each of you a fun and safe summer vacation. Continue to keep your child reading and practicing their math facts over the summer. If you have any questions please feel free call us at the school phone number (708)841-7153.

Your Third Grade Teachers.

Ms. Garwood, Ms. Healy, Mrs. Alexander,  
and Mrs. Arnold



## Social Work Corner

Did you know?

People who witness violence when they were children are more likely to be violent adults. This includes committing crimes as well as being abusive in relationships. Some children need extra help in sorting out confusing feelings about violence they have witnessed. There is help out there for young children who have been exposed to violence learn other ways to cope and develop healthy relationships. 'Start Early, Start Right' is a program run by the South Suburban Family Shelter. There is no charge for services.

Start Early, Start Right  
708-371-6730

The South Suburban Family Shelter provides services to victims of domestic violence, women, men and children. All calls to them are confidential. Please share this information if you know someone who may need help.

South Suburban Family Shelter  
24 Hour Hotline 708-335-3028  
Toll-Free 708-335-3020  
[www.ssfs1.org](http://www.ssfs1.org)

Wishing all Students, Families and Staff a warm and cheery  
May! Pam Schmeckpeper (Miss Pepper)

### Important Date!

Please mark your calendars for  
Wednesday, August  
4th from  
9:00 a.m.  
to 7:00 p.m.

This will be your  
ONE opportunity to  
register your child  
for next school  
year. If you do  
not register on  
this date, your  
child will NOT  
start school on  
time.

You will receive  
more information in  
the mail during the  
summer.